

DARFIELD  
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## MEDICAL OFFICER

FOR THE YEARS 1943 and 1944

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WOMBWELL :  
A. TAYLOR & SONS, LTD.

1946



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Thornhill House,  
DARFIELD,  
Near Barnsley.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting, in brief war-time form, my Medical Report, on the health and sanitary circumstances of your Urban District during the years 1943 and 1944, together with an analysis of the vital statistics for the period under review.

It is a matter for satisfaction that the birth rate for the district was substantially higher than that for England and Wales as a whole, and that the death rate was lower than the national death rate (although no comparability factor was provided in this period). Considering the long drawn out war, with all its concomitant shortages and anxieties, the general health of the community has remained good. Major epidemics have been absent and good work in the prevention of diphtheria by active immunisation has been extended.

With a gradual return to normal peace-time activities allowing, among other things, for a renewed attack on housing conditions, the health and happiness of the people in the district should be still further increased.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. W. WHITWORTH.  
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

# INTERIM ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER FOR THE YEAR 1943.

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## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

### Area.

The area of the district is 2,018 acres.

### Population.

The Registrar-General's estimate of the resident population for the middle of the year is 5,529.

#### Population:—

1941	...	5,570
1942	...	5,523.
1943	...	5,529

### Inhabited Houses.

The number of inhabited houses at the end of the year was 1671.

### Rateable Value.

The Rateable Value of the district at the end of the year was £20,794.

The product of a penny rate (gross) was £93-7-1d.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

### BIRTHS :

	Males	Females	Total
Live Births.			
Legitimate ... ..	57	53	110
Illegitimate ... ..	4	3	7
Totals ... ..	61	56	117

The birth rate per 1,000 estimated resident population was ... .. 21.16

The Birth Rate per 1,000 for England and Wales was 16.50

### STILL BIRTHS.

Still-Births.	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate ... ..	2	1	3
Illegitimate ... ..	—	—	—
Totals ... ..	2	1	3

Still-Birth Rate for Darfield per 1,000 population ... 0.54

Still-Birth Rate for England and Wales ... .. 0.51

### Deaths.

The total number of deaths registered during 1943 was 60.

Male deaths ... .. 41

Female deaths ... .. 19

This total is two more than in 1942.

Death rate per 1,000 for Darfield ... .. 10.85

Death rate per 1,000 for England and Wales ... .. 12.1

Particulars of the causes of death are contained in Table 1.

TABLE 1.

Causes of Deaths during 1943.

Disease	Male	Female	Total
Influenza	1	1	2
Respiratory Tuberculosis	2	2	4
Other Tuberculosis	—	1	1
Cancer	7	1	8
Diabetes	1	1	2
Cerebral Haemorrhage	1	1	2
Heart Disease	9	4	13
Other Circulatory Diseases	4	—	4
Bronchitis	2	—	2
Pneumonia	4	1	5
Other Respiratory Diseases	1	1	2
Digestive Diseases	1	—	1
Nephritis	1	1	2
Premature Birth	2	—	2
Congenital Causes	1	1	2
Violence	2	1	3
Other Defined Causes	2	3	5
Totals ...	41	19	60



### Maternal Mortality.

There were no deaths from puerperal causes during the year.

This is a most satisfactory fact to be able to record.

The Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births for England and Wales was 1.45.

### Infantile Mortality.

There were four deaths during the year of infants under the age of one year, as compared with 10 in 1942 and 6 in 1941.

Expressed as a rate per 1,000 live births :—

Infantile mortality rate for Darfield	...	...	34.26
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Infantile mortality rate for England and Wales			49.00
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### Medical Services.

The Medical Services and Clinics have continued unchanged during the year.

### Ambulance Service.

During the year arrangements were made between the Beckett Hospital, the 1d. in the £ scheme and the West Riding County Council whereby the Local A.R.P. ambulances can be used to carry patients who are "1d. in the £" contributors to and from the Beckett Hospital. The arrangement has worked well and good use has been made of the service.

The vehicles are driven by A.R.P. volunteer drivers attached to the First Aid Post and I think it fitting we should publicly acknowledge and thank them for their work.

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## INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

### Scarlet Fever.

The number of cases of Scarlet Fever notified during the year was 12. This is an increase of 4 over the 1942 figure and 9 more than in 1941.

### Diphtheria.

Two cases of diphtheria were notified during the year compared with one case notified during 1942 and two in 1941.

### Pneumonia.

An increase of pneumonia notifications is shown again this year. There were 23 cases notified during the year against 13 in 1942 and 10 in 1941. Deaths from this cause do not show a correspondingly large increases as can be seen in the following figures.

TABLE 3.

Tuberculosis Cases Notified during the Year 1943.

Age Periods					New Cases				Deaths			
					Respirat'y		Non-Respirat'y		Respirat'y		Non-Respirat'y	
					M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0	...	...	...	...	=	=	=	=	=	=	=	=
1		...	...	...	=	=	=	1	=	=	=	=
5		...	...	...	=	1	=	=	=	1	=	=
15	...	...	...	...	1	2	=	=	=	1	=	=
25		...	...	...	2	1	=	=	=	=	=	1
35		...	...	...	1	=	=	=	1	=	=	=
45		...	...	...	=	=	=	=	=	=	=	=
55		...	...	...	=	=	=	=	1	=	=	=
65 and upwards		...			=	=	=	=	=	=	=	=
Totals					4	4	=	1	2	2	=	1



# INTERIM ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER FOR THE YEAR 1944

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## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

### Area.

The area of the district is 2,018 acres.

### Population.

The Registrar-General's estimate of the resident population at the middle of the year is 5,703.

#### Population:—

1942	...	5,523
1943	...	5,529
1944	...	5,703.

### Inhabited Houses.

The number of inhabited houses at the end of the year was 1671.

### Rateable Value.

The Rateable value of the district at the 1st April was £20,794-0-0d.

The product of a penny rate was (gross) £86-12-10d.,  
(net) £78-0-1d.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

### BIRTHS :

			Males	Females	Total
Live Births.					
Legitimate	...	...	61	54	115
Illegitimate	...	...	1	7	8
Totals	...	...	62	61	123

The Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population was 21.57.

The Birth Rate per 1,000 for England and Wales, 17.6.

### STILL BIRTHS.

			Males	Females	Total
Still-Births.					
Legitimate	...	...	1	1	2
Illegitimate	...	...	1	—	1
Totals	...	...	2	1	3

Still Birth Rate for Darfield per 1,000 population ... 0.53

Still Birth Rate for England and Wales ... .. 0.50

### Deaths.

The total number of deaths registered during 1944 was 71.

Male deaths ... .. 45

Female deaths ... .. 26

This total is 11 more than in 1943.

Death Rate per 1,000 population for Darfield ... 12.44

Death Rate per 1,000 population for England & Wales 11.60

Particulars of the causes of deaths are contained in Table 1.

**TABLE 1.**  
**Causes of Deaths in 1944.**

Disease	Male	Female	Total
Influenza	—	1	1
Tuberculosis	3	—	3
Ac. Inf. Enceph.	1	—	1
Cancer	13	7	20
Diabetes	1	—	1
Cerebral Haemorrhage	3	3	6
Heart Diseases	9	5	14
Other Dis. of Circ syst.	2	1	3
Bronchitis	2	1	3
Pneumonia	2	—	2
Ulcer of Stomach	1	—	1
Other digest. dis.	—	1	1
Nephritis	2	—	2
Maternal Causes	—	1	1
Premature Birth	3	—	3
Congenital Causes	—	1	1
Road Traffic Accident	1	—	1
All other causes.	2	5	7
<b>Totals ...</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>71</b>

### Infantile Mortality.

There were four deaths during the year of infants under the age of one year. This is the same number as in the previous year.

Expressed as a rate per 1,000 live births :—

Infantile Mortality Rate for Darfield	... ..	32.52
Infantile Mortality Rate for England and Wales	... ..	46

### Maternal Mortality.

There was one death from maternal causes during the year.

The maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live births for Darfield was 8.23.

### Medical Services.

The Medical Services and Clinics have remained unchanged during the year.

### Ambulance Service.

The Ambulance Service arranged between the Beckett Hospital, the 1d. in the £ Scheme and the West Riding County Council, continued to operate. The system of voluntary drivers from the First Aid Post ceased when the A.R.P. services were closed down. The service has since been maintained from the Hoyland Depot.

### Blood Transfusion Service.

Nearly 500 pints of blood were collected during the year.



## INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

### Scarlet Fever.

The number of cases of Scarlet Fever notified during the year was 8. This is a decrease of 4 on the 1943 figure and is the same as in 1942.

### Diphtheria.

Two cases of Diphtheria were notified during the year. This is the same number as in the preceding year.

### Diphtheria Immunisation.

The immunisation campaign has been continued during the year. A good response has been obtained from the parents of children in the under five group, with the following result :

Under 5 years group, 58 per cent. immunisation.

5 - 15 years group, 98 per cent. immunisation.

### Pneumonia.

Four cases of pneumonia were notified during the year. This is a gratifying reduction on last year's figures when 23 cases were notified and 13 in 1942.

The incidence of other notifiable diseases is given in the following table :—

**Infectious Diseases Notified during 1944.**

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3

### Tuberculosis during the Year.

The number of new cases of tuberculosis during the year was 11, compared with 9 in 1943 and 9 in 1942.

The number of deaths from this cause was 3. Details are given in Table 3.

**TABLE 3.**

### Tuberculosis Cases notified during the year 1944.

Age Periods					New Cases				Deaths			
					Respirat'y		Non-Respirat'y		Respirat'y		Non-Respirat'y	
					M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0	...	...	...	...	=	=	=	=	=	=	=	=
1		...	...	...	=	=	=	=	=	=	=	=
5		...	...	...	=	=	=	=	=	=	=	=
15	...	...	...	...	=	2	=	=	1	=	=	=
25		...	...	...	2	1	=	=	2	=	=	=
35		...	...	...	4	1	=	=	=	=	=	=
45		...	...	...	=	=	=	=	=	=	=	=
55		...	...	...	=	=	=	=	=	=	=	=
65 and upwards		...		...	1	=	=	=	=	=	=	=
Totals					7	4	=	=	3	=	=	=



